

United States Citizens' Congress  
Washington, D.C.

76-367/1

January 31, 1976

The Honorable William E. Colby  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. Colby:

You should have already received the United States Citizens' Congress' complimentary invitation to its Salute To Leadership luncheon on February 22.

The Board of Directors of the USCC hopes that you will be able to honor the occasion by your presence, and join Secretary Earl Butz, Senator Strom Thurmond and Martha Rountree as a recipient of the USCC Bicentennial Leadership Award.

We feel that you have shown those qualities of patriotism and leadership which the United States Citizens' Congress is trying to encourage, as our country enters on its third century. We hope that you will allow us to so honor you on the birthday of the Father of our Country.

Yours very sincerely,

*Elliott Strauss*

Elliott B. Strauss  
Chairman, Board of Directors

EBS/bc

*Pub. Affs*

*To Barb for W. E. Colby.*

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Executive Registry

76-737

30 January

George:

Congratulations!

Came across the enclosed and thought you might  
be amused by it.

May I make a bid now for an interview whenever  
you begin doing such things?

Regards to Barbara.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Saul".

Saul Friedman

*Thank him  
for clipping from  
the post.*

*file clipping - press  
pass request  
to Thurman.*

*Pub. Affs.*

# Bush's Trail: War To School to Texas

April 20, 1964

(This is one in a series of profiles on the candidates seeking nomination to the U.S. Senate from Texas. The first articles will deal with Republican primary candidates.)

BY SAUL FRIEDMAN  
Chronicle Reporter

In the more politically conventional provinces of the nation—almost anywhere but Texas—George Bush would certainly have all the accouterments for success in politics.

But accouterments—his personal and political battle dress—is a rather Easternish, martini-and-caviar word which seems out of place in the beer-and-barbecue vocabulary of Texas politics.

And that, in a nutshell, is Bush's problem as he campaigns to join John Tower as the second Republican senator from Texas since Reconstruction.

## Massachusetts Native

George Herbert Walker Bush, born in Milton, Mass., on June 12, 1924, was named for his maternal grandfather, a colorful St. Louis addition to the Robber Baron era and the man who donated the famed Walker Cup in golf.

Bush's father, Prescott Bush, came from a substantial Ohio manufacturing family, went east to join a venerable banking firm, and became U. S. Senator from Connecticut—a Yankee Republican.

Such was the rich background on which George Bush dined before he went to Phillips Academy, Andover.

On his 18th birthday Bush went off to World War II. He won his wings as a navy aviator before he was 19, became a carrier pilot, and won the Distinguished Flying Cross for his attack on the enemy before his dive bomber went down in flames.

Both gunners in his airplane were lost, but Bush was snatched from the sea by a submarine and went through 30 days of depth bombing and undersea warfare before rejoining his unit.

Bush returned from battle to the balls and playing fields of Yale.

## Baseball Captain

On the playing fields he was fair at soccer and the captain

of Yale's eastern NCAA baseball champions.

In the halls he won a Phi Beta Kappa key and, in under three years, a bachelor's degree in economics.

Between the war's end and his enrollment at Yale, Bush married his childhood sweetheart, Barbara Pierce, of Rye, N. Y., whose father was president of the McCall (magazine) Corp.

Today the Bushes, who live at 5525 Briar Dr. in Tanglewood, have five children, four sons and a daughter.

Because he fervently wished to strike out on his own, because he could not see himself following his father into the banking business, and because he fell in love with Texas while stationed in Corpus Christi, Bush in 1948 came to Texas.

Except for a brief sojourn in California, he worked the oil fields around Midland-Odessa, selling drilling supplies for Dresser Industries.

By 1951, Bush figured he had learned some of the tricks of the oil business and he formed a company to buy and sell royalties and leases.

## Organized Oil Firm

In 1953 he and a friend organized Zapata Petroleum Corp., and later Zapata Off-Shore Co. The former company has since merged with Pennzoil and is worth about \$16 million.

Bush still heads Zapata Off-Shore, which he moved from Midland to Houston in 1959. It is worth about \$10 million, and has drilled in eight countries including Kuwait, Malaysia, Trinidad and Mexico.

Rounding out the background of candidate Bush are his other political, civic and business activities:

He was a founder and director of the Midland YMCA; chairman of the Midland County Cancer Crusade; a director of the Commercial Bank & Trust Co., Midland; a director of the Midland Chamber of Commerce; one of the Texas Jaycees' "outstanding young Texans" in 1956; finance chairman in Midland for the Eisenhower campaigns in 1952 and 1956; he is a trustee of Hedgescroft Hospital and Holly Hall here, and of Phillips Academy, and until his candidacy, was chairman of the Harris County GOP.

Yet for all of this, Bush finds himself making artful apologies for his background.

## No Covered Wagon

In Dallas recently he was on a program following a folk singer who told how his father



GEORGE BUSH  
Image Is a Problem

came to Texas in a covered wagon.

"Gee! I wish mine had," Bush said. And he brought down the house.

When at a political meeting he senses anti-egghead animosity, he says something like:

"I'm from Yale, but that's not as bad as Harvard. And after all, John Tower went to the more liberal London School of Economics and that hasn't hurt him."

Equally as often, Bush finds himself defending his father's 10-year record in the Senate; his Taftian, rock-ribbed New England conservatism is not conservative enough.

Prescott Bush is with Brown Brothers, Harriman.

From this firm have come Robert Lovett, former secretary of defense; and Averill Harriman, former New York governor and now under secretary of state.

## Has Warred With Dad

Bush, however, showed independence of his father when he came to Texas. And since coming here he has warred with his dad on many an issue.

"I was opposed to his stand on the Harris Gas bill," Bush said, "And when he was in the Senate and I went to Washington, I would very rarely go to him on political issues."

"He served Connecticut," Bush added, "and there are too many people who put liberal-conservative labels on issues on which they don't belong."

Bush is an avid supporter of Sen. Barry Goldwater, and stands ideologically opposed to the so-called Eastern Republicanism of Nelson Rockefeller or William Scranton.

But he is a party man as well as a conservative, and he sees the Republican Party, not any one man, as the hope for conservatism.

He is impatient with people who clutch for panaceas, simple, sweeping solutions to all the problems confronting the nation.

When the talk at a political rally turns to getting the United States out of the United Nations and getting Chief Justice Earl Warren impeached, and getting the Marines into Cuba without delay, and withdrawing recognition from all Communist, So-

viets, and abolishing the in-

economic distress," he said, "nor can we bring equality."

"Inequality," he said, "is a necessary consequence of liberty. And if we try to bring equality or equality of opportunity to the world, we will not provide equality of opportunity for our own people."

Although Bush steers a course somewhere between the so-called far right and the Republicanism of Rockefeller, he wants a clear confrontation between the ideological liberal and conservative.

Yet Bush does not want to stamp out liberalism.

Liberals have a role to play, he says: "to prick the conscience of the conservatives, so that we do not go back to the days of the Robber Barons."

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"Zealots . . . Finish Second"

"Zealots without political maturity finish second at election time," he has said.

"It's easy to campaign on simple solutions," says Bush. "They get applause, and it's easy to give an audience everything it wants."

But, says Bush, "I don't see the world in blacks and whites."

Bush has a sharp awareness of his own good fortune in life.

This awareness was driven home by the one great tragedy that darkened his family's life.

Bush's second child, a daughter, died at the age of four after a tortuous six-month struggle with leukemia.

"This was a great leveller for me, to watch that little girl die," he said. "And as a result it frightens me to know that other than that, life has been so damned good to us."

Although he finds compassion for the sick, and helpless and poverty-stricken in this nation and throughout the world (he has visited the nations in which his company does business), he honestly believes that helping the world cannot be this nation's financial burden.

"Can't Remake World"

He is willing to admit that poverty and the waste of human resources elsewhere is a moral burden for every man, but he is firm in his belief that "we can't remake the world in our image."

"We can't plan away eco-

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**Remarks:**

Could you possibly draft a response for  
Mr. Bush's signature regarding the attached  
 letter and request for an interview.

Thanks,

Karen

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